

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A press device for pressing a web that is carried in a machine direction through an extended nip between the press device and a backing member, comprising:

a press shoe adapted to be juxtaposed with the backing member to form said extended nip through which the web passes, the press shoe extending in a cross-machine direction along substantially a full width of the web and being arranged to be moved between different positions with respect to the backing member for controlling a pressure curve in a machine direction through the nip;

a support that supports the press shoe such that the press shoe is movable in a loading direction toward the backing member for applying pressure to the web;

a plurality of extendable and retractable loading cylinders spaced apart in the cross-machine direction along the press shoe, each loading cylinder having a main axis in a longitudinal direction along which the loading cylinder extends and retracts, each loading cylinder comprising a first end fixed on the press shoe and a second end fixed on the support; and

a stop member arranged downstream of the press shoe, the stop member being arranged to be moved between and fixed in different stop positions in the machine direction, wherein the stop member is fixed in a selected stop position at least by a spacer element disposed in a recess in the support which spacer element abuts the stop member, wherein the spacer element is of a geometric design which in a first position abuts the stop member in a first stop position and in a second position abuts the stop member in a second stop position in the machine direction, and wherein at least some of the loading cylinders or the support comprise members eccentrically arranged with respect to one or some of the main axes which members can be brought into different eccentric positions with respect to said main axes in such a way that the eccentric position and stop position control said position of the press shoe during pressing and thereby control said pressure curve in the machine direction through the press nip.

2. (Original) A press device according to claim 1, wherein the eccentrically arranged members comprise recesses in the first end of the loading cylinder for receiving male members fixed to the press shoe, recesses in the second end of the loading cylinder for receiving male members fixed to the support, or recesses in the support for receiving male members fixed to the second end.

3. (Original) A press device according to claim 1, wherein the eccentrically arranged members comprise male members fixed to the first end of the loading cylinder for being received in recesses in the press shoe, male members fixed to the second end of the loading cylinder for being received in recesses in the support, or male members fixed to the support for being received in recesses in the second end.

4. (Original) A press device according to claim 3, wherein said male members include a recess or a cavity for receiving a locking pin, a peg, a locking screw, or a similar member running through a passage provided in the member having said recesses for receiving said male members.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) A press device according to claim 1, in which at least some of the loading cylinders comprise at least one cylinder part coupled in a sliding fashion to at least one piston part in a sealed manner by contacting sealing members forming at least one work chamber inside which pressure of a pressurising medium can be reduced in order to generate a shortening or increased in order to generate an extension of the loading cylinder, and wherein the cylinder part forms the first end of the loading cylinder.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a pressure curve in a machine direction through an extended press nip, which press nip is provided by a press device comprising a press shoe, a backing member that forms said press nip with the press shoe, a support on which the

press shoe is movably supported, and a plurality of loading cylinders arranged between the support and the press shoe at least some of which comprise a first end fixed to the press shoe and a second end fixed to the support, and each of the loading cylinders having a main axis in a longitudinal direction along which the loading cylinder is extended and retracted, and in which the press shoe can be moved in the machine direction to different positions with respect to the support and the backing member in order to control the pressure curve, the method comprising:

providing a stop member downstream of the press shoe, and displacing the stop member from a first stop position to a second stop position in the machine direction, wherein the stop member is fixed in a selected stop position at least by use of a spacer element disposed in a recess of the support which elements abuts the stop, and wherein the spacer element is brought into a first position in order to abut the stop member in said first stop position, and the spacer element subsequently is brought into a second position in order to abut the stop member in said second stop position in the machine direction; and

providing members engaged between the support and at least some of the loading cylinders, or between at least some of the loading cylinders and the press shoe, which control a position of the press shoe, said members being eccentrically arranged with respect to one or more of the main axes, and displacing said members from a first eccentric position to a second eccentric position with respect to said main axes, whereby the second eccentric position and the second stop position control the position of the press shoe from a first position to a second position with respect to the support and the backing member.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the eccentrically arranged members are provided in the form of recesses in one of the press shoe and the support which receive male members on the loading cylinders for fixing the loading cylinders relative to said one of the press shoe and support.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein a cavity is provided in each of said male members, and a passage is provided in said one of the press shoe and support for receiving one of a locking pin, a peg, and a locking screw, which is received into said cavity in order to fix

the loading cylinders relative to said one of the press shoe and support.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the eccentrically arranged members are provided in the form of male members on one of the press shoe and the support which are received into recesses on the loading cylinders for fixing the loading cylinders relative to said one of the press shoe and support.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The method according to claim 8, in which a first number of said plurality of loading cylinders comprise double-action cylinders and a second number of said plurality of loading cylinders comprise single-action cylinders, and wherein fixing of loading cylinders by way of said male members is performed only at the first number of loading cylinders, and the first number is smaller than the second number.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 9, in which a first number of said plurality of loading cylinders comprise double-action cylinders and a second number of said plurality of loading cylinders comprise single-action cylinders, and wherein fixing of loading cylinders by way of said male members is performed only at the first number of loading cylinders, and the first number is smaller than the second number.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the first number is smaller than one-third of the sum of the first and second numbers.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the first number is smaller than one-third of the sum of the first and second numbers.